

C L A I M S

1. A method for connecting the end of a flattened tube of plastic foil to the beginning of a subsequent tube, said tubes being used in particular for applying sleeves onto
5 bottles or the like, comprising the following steps:
- (a) the leading edge of the beginning of the flattened tube is provided with an obliquely cut-away corner at both longitudinal edges;
 - (b) the thus established two loose lips are separated from
10 each other; the end of the spent tube is slid between the lips and fixed in relation to said lips.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the end edge of the spent tube is at a distance from those locations of the longitudinal edges of the subsequent tube where the oblique-
15 ly cut-away corners of that tube end, thus leaving a space between the longitudinal edges of both flattened tubes.
3. Method according to claim 1, wherein adhesive tape is used for fixing the ends of the tubes.
4. Method according to claim 1, wherein for fixing the ends
20 of the tubes in relation to each other, the materials of said tubes are melted together by means of a short time, pressurized supply of heat.
5. Device for applying the method according to claim 1, comprising:
- 25 (a) a frame in which some reels of flattened tube can be accommodated;
 - (b) means for supporting the beginnings of subsequent flattened tubes, said beginning being provided with obliquely cut-away corners near its longitudinal edges
30 for forming loose lips,
 - (c) a guide, extending in parallel to said means for supporting:
 - (i) the beginnings of the subsequent tubes.

12. Device according to claim 11, wherein a cutting knife is present at each clamping member for clamping the beginning of a subsequent tube and that operation of the clamping member and the cutting knife takes place by means of a
5 pressurized medium cylinder being located on the transport module.

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